

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. In about February 1951 PIEN Ting-sun (彭錦森)* a high official in the Maritime Customs Administration in Peiping and former Shanghai Customs Commissioner, was arrested for failure to preserve secrecy on customs activities. According to persons in touch with TING Kuei-t'ang, ** deputy director of the Maritime Customs Administration, PIEN was arrested primarily to set an example on the need for security regarding customs affairs.

2. During February 200 persons from Peiping and 150 from Shanghai were recruited for the customs service, and on 1 March the entire group was assembled for training at the new study hall completed in February at the Yangtze Poo and Whangpoo Wharf. For a short time before 1 March, the group attended preliminary classes in warehouses in the area.

3. On 1 March a "United Search Organization", similar to an organization in Canton, was formed in Shanghai, composed of customs personnel and members of the military police, for the purpose of eliminating smuggling. In carrying out their duties in the new organization, members of the two services will keep watch over each other.

4. On 1 March, the Shanghai Port Authority relieved the Shanghai Customs Service*** of its control of the harbor pilots' Woosung Fort organization and is now assigning pilots.

5. There are from 27 to 32 gunboats on patrol duty in the Whangpoo River in the Shanghai area. About four or five of the gunboats are recent purchases, and the rest formerly belonged to the Nationalists and UNRRA. The larger vessels are each armed with six anti-aircraft guns, and the smaller with four anti-aircraft guns, two fore and two aft. Usually they are docked between Kao Chong Miao and the Lunghua district when not on patrol duty. Repairs of the gunboats are made at the Kao Chong Wharf.

6. According to statistics of the Shanghai customs service, most of the godowns in Shanghai are empty. Imports are usually, immediately after arrival, transshipped to the north by sea to Tientsin and Taku Bar, by river to Hankow and thence by rail to the north, or by rail from Shanghai. About two ships a week arrive in Shanghai from Yangtze River ports. Normally, they carry native products only and these are transshipped north by one of the above routes.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

About one ship a week arrives from Tientsin, and about one ship each week from Hong Kong. Incoming cargo from Hong Kong consists mainly of chemical goods.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. He has also been reported as KAO Ting-sun. Probably KAO Shang-neng, deputy director of the Staff Office, Maritime Customs Administration, is intended.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. TING Kuei-t'ang is not a member of the Communist Party, and is being retained in his position as deputy director of the Maritime Customs Administration only until the director, K'UNG Ytan, can become familiar with customs procedures.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. Organization of the Shanghai Customs Service was discussed in [REDACTED]

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